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Your essential daily news | WEEKEND, MARCH 17-19, 2017

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LET'S TAKE THIS OUTSIDE

All systems go for outdoor Heritage Classic at TD Place metroSPORTS

Anti-extremism outreach planned

PROGRAM

Ottawa police have applied for funding: Documents

Dylan C. Robertson
For Metro | Ottawa

Ottawa police have been quietly planning a program that aims to dissuade people from joining extremist groups before the commit crimes, Metro has learned.

According to documents obtained under freedom-of-information laws, the Ottawa Police Service recently submitted a grant proposal to the RCMP for a Countering Violent Extremism pilot program.

CVE programs aim to dissuade young people from violent Islamist and white-supremacist groups by providing a mix of counselling and mentorship.

Canada's approach is loosely modelled on Britain's Channel program, in which teachers, preachers and social workers refer vulnerable people showing signs of radicalization to police. Specially trained officers then surround them with support, like counsellors, mentors and housing help.

Such programs are already underway in Toronto, Montreal and Calgary.

Three OPS officers have received violent-extremism training through 10 different events and courses, according to the documents, dating back to at least July 2014.

That training has included the Violent Extremism Risk Assessment 2, which provides officers with 31 factors that measure whether someone is susceptible to violent-extremist groups. Those include a hardline belief in a cause that morally justifies violence against a perceived threat, often pre-emptively. They've also been trained by a senior U.K. officer about the Channel program.

In Canada and abroad, these programs have been met with a mix of support and skepticism. Proponents say it's a much-needed way for police to dissuade people from joining nefarious groups, instead of entrapping them in probes. But others worry police gather too much information that can then be used against a vulnerable person and their peers.

Ottawa police offered Metro an interview with Sgt. Anthony Skinner, but cancelled five days later.

In a brief email, Sgt. Skinner said the CVE program will fall under the existing Merit program, which currently sends officers to the city's southeast neighbourhoods like Heatherington and South Keys. They try to prevent at-risk people from taking up drugs and gang life through social workers, housing and health resources.

"Merit is focused on treating vulnerabilities associated to acutely at-risk people and we are currently looking at how we can expand our risk tables citywide using the expertise of our Merit partners," wrote Skinner.

Police said those involved could not be reached Thursday to explain why the program hasn't launched despite 32 months of training, and with which community groups officers will collaborate.

Ottawa skip Rachel Homan leading Canadian curlers to Worlds metroSPORTS

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Tory leadership hopeful is the poster boy for Guatemalan bathroom hygeine. **Canada**

5 THINGS TO DO IN THE CITY THIS WEEKEND

The luck of the Irish will be with you all weekend so be sure to wear some green. Even after you've had your St. Patrick's Day fun, you can run a marathon, check out some music, or visit a car show on Saturday and Sunday. Here are five things worth checking out.

RYAN TUMILTY METRO

1 St. Patrick's Day Fun — Friday

There will be plenty of places to toast the Emerald Isle on Friday, but the Heart and Crown pub in the Byward Market is always a popular spot. This year seven separate musical acts will grace the bar's stages beginning at 11:30 a.m. And then the next morning, if you need a healthy cure for that hangover...

2 St. Patrick's Day run — Saturday

Like most good people, the Ottawa Irish Rugby Club mark the morning after St. Patrick's Day with a 10 kilometre-run. There really is no better way to shake off a hangover. Late registration is still open and will be until 8:15 a.m. on race day with the 10K going at 9:15 and a more gentle 5K starting at 9:30. Wear green because there is a prize for best-dressed. If St. Patrick can drive the snakes from Ireland, you can certainly summon the will for a wee run.

3 Collectible show — Sunday

If by Sunday you find yourself all Irish-ed out then perhaps you can nerd out at the Ottawa Nostalgia and Collectible's Show in Nepean. The event running from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Nepean Sportsplex, will feature 120 tables worth of the rare and vintage for the collector or the enthusiast in your life.

4 Plaskett boys — Saturday evening

Juno-award winning songwriter Joel Plaskett is bringing his dad Bill with him on his national Solidarity tour. The duo take the stage Saturday night at the National Arts Centre

5 Car show — All Weekend

If running is not what you had in mind, consider the Ottawa Gatineau Auto Show this weekend. Over 30 manufacturers will be on site until Sunday showing off over 300 vehicles at the Shaw Centre.

PUBLIC TRANSIT

One-day strike causes scramble

Dylan C. Robertson
For Metro | Ottawa

Gatineau commuters faced crawling highways, packed parking lots and abandoned bus stops Thursday after a one-day strike was declared by the union for bus drivers and mechanics of the Société de transport de l'Outaouais (STO).

The Amalgamated Transit Union's 591 branch announced late Wednesday afternoon that it instructed its employees not to show up for work the next day, after a day of unsuccessful bargaining with the STO. Both sides are pondering binding arbitration, when a federal mediator writes a contract to which both sides must agree.

Union head Félix Gendron said his members plan to strike on a changing weekday each week, and will provide 24 hours' notice.

Though deemed legal, Wednesday's sudden move left the STO scrambling to get the word out through social media and alerts. Highway 50 was clogged Thursday morning, despite some schools being on March Break. Nearby, the Robert Guertin arena's 500 parking spots were full.

At Terrasses de la Chaudière, a security guard had to inform commuters no STO buses would be coming, prompting many to pack onto the six OC Transpo routes that cross the Ottawa River.

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Interim Conservative Leader Rona Ambrose asks a question during Question Period in the House of Commons in Ottawa on March 8. ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

SEXUAL ASSAULT

Judiciary needs training: Ambrose

Ryan Tumilty
Metro | Ottawa

Interim Conservative leader Rona Ambrose said she can't understand why the Ontario government isn't prepared to require new judges to take sexual-assault training.

Ambrose has all-party support for a private member's bill in the House of Commons requiring prospective judges to take sexual assault training before being appointed to the bench.

Her bill would only cover federally appointed judges, but provincial judges oversee many sexual assault cases. Clare Graham, a spokesperson for Ontario Attorney General Yasir Naqvi, told Metro earlier this week that the province doesn't plan similar legislation.

"The independence of the judiciary is one of the key principles of Canada's justice system," she said in an email. "In Ontario, judges function separately and independently of the government."

Ambrose said she's confident her bill is constitutionally sound and judicial independence shouldn't extend so far as to prevent the province from ensuring basic training is happening.

"Unfortunately, in this country judges are treated like gods. We are not even allowed to ask them if they're taking the training," she said.

Representatives of both the Ontario Court of Justice, whose judges are provincial appointees, and Ontario Superior Court, whose judges are federal appointees, confirmed that training is available, but they don't track which judges have taken it.

Ambrose said some judges may simply not have the information and training they need to make good rulings.

"Some of them don't have any training in sexual assault law, some aren't even criminal lawyers and they're presiding over sexual assault cases."

She said bad rulings undermine already-low confidence in the system: estimates are that only one in 10 victims comes forward.

"That's what this is about, it is about actually creating confidence in the justice system."

She said if all judges better understood rape myths and stereotypes, victims could be more confident in the system.

"Then they don't feel that going through the system is a judgment on their character, but an actual judgment on their case."

The Ontario attorney general's office did not respond to Metro's requests for comment.

Hill security probes attempt to steal car

A car witnesses say was driven by a suspected gunman sits parked as police guard the entrance to parliament buildings in Ottawa in October 2014. A gunman opened fire at the National War Memorial, wounding a soldier, then wounded a security guard before he was shot by Parliament's sergeant-at-arms. ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

SECURITY

2014 shooting rampage also involved theft of car on Hill

Dylan C. Robertson
For Metro | Ottawa

Parliament Hill authorities are looking into why a car was left idling outside of Centre Block, allowing a stranger to jump in and drive off Monday.

The incident took place after a thorough revamp of security procedures in the wake of gunman Michael Zehaf-Bibeau's attack in October 2014, during which he carjacked a minister's vehicle and burst into Centre Block with a hunting rifle.

On Monday, Ottawa police charged a 27-year-old Ottawa woman and referred her for a mental health assessment. They believe she stole a taxi, which she left in front of the Hill around 3:30 p.m., before walking up to Centre Block.

She then told Parliamentary Protective Service officers she was an employee, but they turned her away because she lacked identification, according to agency spokeswoman Melissa Rusk.

Ottawa police say the woman then jumped into an empty, idling car and drove it toward an exit, where RCMP officers stopped and arrested her.

> We're responsible for just the physical security on the ground.
> Melissa Rusk

The PPS and the Senate Speaker's office both refused to say who owned the vehicle and if they will be reprimanded, telling Metro the PPS is still investigating the incident.

"The issue was identified. But it's an operational matter," said Victoria Deng, spokeswoman for the Senate Speaker's office. "For security reasons, I'm not going to get into the nature of the vehicle."

Rusk said the PPS has no rules for how vehicles should operate in the parliamentary precinct. Instead, taxi drivers, construction workers and House and Senate staffers all follow their employers' guidelines. "We're responsible for just the physical security on the ground," she said.

Ottawa police say the unarmed woman was charged with vehicle theft, theft under $5,000 and a Traffic Act offence. They believe there was no threat to public safety. The parliamentary precinct has been quieter, with both houses on break this week.

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He won on Jeopardy, baby

LOCAL TALENT

Ottawa's Grant McSheffrey tastes game show glory

Dylan C. Robertson
For Metro | Ottawa

Grant McSheffrey is on a roll on Jeopardy. TWITTER

Grant McSheffrey forgot his work ID Thursday morning, so he went to the security desk at BlackBerry's QNX branch in Kanata.

"I went up to the desk to get the badge, and the guard said, 'You were the guy who was on Jeopardy, right?"

McSheffrey has indeed become a celebrity of sorts after stringing together three wins on the long-running quiz show this week. Tuesday's episode saw him take home $30,000 US in a cliffhanger win — a sum he increased to $69,201 by the end of Thursday's show.

And that might not be all: Jeopardy champions keep going until they lose.

A voracious reader who enjoys trivia games with friends, McSheffrey had dreamed about being on the show. He applied three times through the show's online test, which poses 50 questions with 15-second time limits.

He was selected for a December 2016 taping and paid his own way to Los Angeles. The show produces five episodes, a whole week's worth, in a single day. A contestant who goes on a winning streak plays in all five and would contend with early-morning paperwork and preparation before playing three consecutive games before lunch — with very brief change-room breaks in between — and then two more in the afternoon.

McSheffrey said that first taping was a high-pressure day ("I couldn't find a nice black belt I brought, so I had this one that was falling apart") and that he remembers being glad not to be facing the audience.

"All I could think was 'I don't know if my legs are going to stop shaking. Can people see that I'm shaking?' I was just so nervous," he said. "Alex Trebek first comes out and wow — just wow.

> **No. 1 is just try — you never know. Just go for it.**
> Grant McSheffrey

"It's easy to keep secrets, because I forgot about what happened," he laughs. "Seeing the reactions of all your friends and family as the show is going on, it's amazing."

McSheffrey's high-energy on-camera presence and retro look prompted Twitter users to post memes, which a friend showed him."I thought it was just hilarious," he said.

"I couldn't believe having complete strangers that were that interested in it."

McSheffrey can't say how much he's taken home from the show, but he does admit to dreaming of an Austrian ski trip with his family.

He says anyone who dreams of applying should be persistent. "No. 1 is just try — you never know," he says. "Just go for it."

CRIME

Weapons reported in Vanier

Ottawa police responded to two unrelated calls within 500 metres of each other in Vanier this week, after a man was seen with a gun, and an alleged thief threatened people with a syringe.

Police were called Wednesday afternoon to the Shoppers Drug Mart at 150 Montreal Rd. Shortly before 2 p.m., they say a young woman attempted to shoplift multiple items. When staff confronted her, "the suspect produced a syringe and threatened the employees."

She was let go but police arrested her shortly after. Brittany Whittington, 23, was charged with robbery and assault with a weapon.

The next morning, police responded to reports of a man walking around with a gun near 100 McArthur Ave. around 9 a.m. The man was arrested without incident, and police said they also took a female accomplice into custody.

Anyone with information regarding either event should call Ottawa Police at 613-236-1222.

DYLAN C. ROBERTSON/METRO

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Charges 'politically motivated': Lawyer

Karim Baratov was arrested as a suspect in a massive hack of Yahoo emails. INSTAGRAM

LEGAL

Karim Baratov is maintaining his innocence

A lawyer for a Canadian man of Kazakh origins arrested as one of four suspects in a massive hack of Yahoo emails said Thursday that the charges against his client may be "politically motivated by the U.S."

Jag Virk suggested that his client, 22-year-old Karim Baratov, is being used as a scapegoat by American authorities.

"I believe (U.S. President) Donald Trump is using this to make it appear as if he is going after Russian hackers," he said. "These allegations are from three years ago."

Baratov maintains his innocence and has no prior criminal record, his lawyer said, adding that people should wait for all facts to emerge in the case.

Toronto police said Baratov was arrested Tuesday in the Ontario community of Ancaster at the request of American authorities.

The U.S. Department of Justice said a grand jury in California has indicted Baratov and three others, two of them allegedly officers of the Russian Federal Security Service, for computer hacking, economic espionage and other criminal offences.

U.S. officials said Baratov also went by the names Kay, Karim Taloverov and Karim Akehmet Tokbergenov.

He was arrested under the extradition act, and appeared in court in Hamilton on Wednesday morning, court staff said. His case was put over until Friday afternoon, when he was expected to appear by video.

An acquaintance described Baratov as an exotic car buff who was popular and flashy but tight-lipped about his personal life — including his job, which involved working with computers.

Also indicted in the alleged conspiracy that authorities said began in January 2014 were Dmitry Aleksandrovich Dokuchaev, 33, Igor Anatolyevich Sushchin, 43, and Alexsey Alexseyevich (Magg) Belan, 29, all Russian nationals and residents. THE CANADIAN PRESS

HYGIENE

Tory leadership hopeful a poster boy for Guatemala

No one is quite sure just how it happened, but Conservative MP Michael Chong has somehow become the poster boy — literally — for a top-quality, "hygienic" experience in Guatemalan washrooms.

Chong's bright smile was spotted on a poster Thursday just outside a washroom in the Central American country, with his arms folded, hair neatly combed and wearing a business suit.

The poster advertises "a special service for special people like you" in Spanish text. That special service is spelled out below: "sanitary" and "hygienic" bathroom facilities.

The poster was spotted by a visiting Canadian, Bailey Greenspon, who tweeted a photo of it. "Michael Chong, your stock photo is reassuring public washroom users in Guatemala," Greenspon tweeted.

Chong responded with tongue firmly in cheek. "Just part of the Chong campaign's international outreach in Latin America," the leadership hopeful tweeted in reply, adding the hashtag, "#chongtourage" to the end of his post.

Chisholm Pothier, communications director for Chong's leadership campaign, said he doesn't know for sure how

Bailey Greenspon and a poster of Michael Chong. CONTRIBUTED

Chong ended up being the face of toilet breaks in Guatemala, but it could be because the photos on Chong's website were at one point open for use.

Chong has been a model for nature's call in Guatemala since at least 2015, when another Canadian, Tim McIntosh, said he saw the politician's face on a poster there.

"He actually looks really good," Pothier said. "I love the poster, too. It's like 'special service for a special gentleman.' I'm glad that the Guatemalans think he is a special gentleman and I encourage all Canadians to feel the same sentiment and sign up before March 28 to support Michael Chong."

Pothier said this discovery has been a hit among Chong and his staff. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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A new kind of diplomacy

POLITICS

Justin Trudeau trying to get an in with Trump through Ivanka

A businesswoman whose lifestyle brand is struggling with liberals. A liberal-multilateralist prime minister who needs an in with a conservative-nationalist president.

Diplomacy is rooted in interests. And Ivanka Trump and Justin Trudeau both have an interest in hanging out with each other.

The prime minister sat with the president's daughter Wednesday night at the Broadway musical Come From Away, the Canadian show about the Newfoundland town that took in stranded Americans on Sept. 11, 2001. It was his second olive branch to her in just over a month.

Some U.S. news outlets suggested Trudeau had been sending a kind of passive-aggressive message: "Justin Trudeau brought Ivanka Trump to a Broadway show that celebrates generosity towards foreigners in need," the New York Times tweeted.

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's budding friendship with Ivanka Trump appears to be a way to get an in with her father, the president of the U.S. INSTAGRAM/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Whether or not that was true, he was also offering a kind of cashless donation to her company.

Trudeau joked of his "bromance" with former president Barack Obama. Shared youth and mutual interest in women's issues notwithstanding, his new bestiehood appears much more a marriage of convenience.

"It is just so Game of Thrones," said John Higginbotham, a former Canadian diplomat in Washington, referring to the television show in which warring family dynasties strike strategic alliances in ruthless pursuit of power.

Like Donald Trump before her, Ivanka Trump has made a brand out of her name. Her name has been tarnished, in the eyes of millions of progressive American consumers, by her father's xenophobia and sexism. Who better to be seen with than the fashionable foreign progressive feminist who hugs refugees?

For Trudeau, daughter diplomacy offers the prospect of a lifeline to a president who shares almost none of his principles but who often appears to value personal relationships over ideology and policy — and who appreciates a political gift. Donald Trump has lavished praise upon chief executives who have let him take undeserved credit for their investments.

"It looks as if foreign leaders think the way to approach Trump is by direct or indirect appeals to his ego and personality, rather than in terms of national interests," said Charles Stevenson, a former State Department policy planner who teaches foreign policy at Johns Hopkins University.

Donald Trump, not Ivanka Trump, was Trudeau's original invite to the play, communications director Kate Purchase said. Trump told Trudeau he couldn't make it, Purchase said, "but suggested that perhaps Ivanka Trump could join instead."

"We are committed to continuing to build on that relationship in a positive, constructive way. That means talking to U.S. senators, members of Congress, governors, Cabinet secretaries, business leaders, and importantly: the president and those close to him."

Trudeau's early work with Ivanka Trump has paid at least superficial dividends. Trump boasted in his high-profile address to Congress of the new Canada-U.S. council on women in business; Trudeau was the only foreign leader he mentioned by name. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

SPENDING

Defence, security win in Trump budget, many others lose

Military spending would get the biggest boost in President Donald Trump's proposed budget. Environmental programs, medical research, Amtrak and an array of international and cultural programs would take big hits.

The budget proposal out Thursday is a White House wish list; it'll be up to Congress to decide where money goes. If Trump gets his way, there will be more losers than winners among government departments and programs. Here is a sampling:

WINNERS

- The Pentagon. Trump proposes a 10 per cent increase in the massive defence budget, with an extra $52 billion going to accelerate the war against the Islamic State group and address insufficient weapons stocks, personnel gaps, deferred maintenance and cyber vulnerabilities. An additional $2 billion would go to nuclear weapons.
- Veterans Affairs. Up 5.9 per cent. That's an additional $4.4 billion, driven by ever-growing health care costs. The plan would allocate $3.5 billion to extend an expiring Veterans Choice program.
- Homeland Security. Up 6.8 per cent. That's $2.8 billion more. Most of the increase, $2.6 billion, would be to help kickstart Trump's promised border wall. The president has repeatedly said Mexico would pay for the wall; Mexican officials are adamant that they won't. Trump also wants an extra $1.5 billion for more immigration jails and deportations, and $314 million to hire 1,500 immigration enforcement and border patrol agents.
- School choice: $1.4 billion more to expand school choice programs, bringing spending in that area to $20 billion, even as the Education Department's overall budget would be cut by $9 billion, or 13 per cent.

LOSERS:

- EPA, facing a 31.4 per cent cut, or $2.6 billion. The plan would cut 3,200 jobs at the agency, eliminate a new plan for tighter regulations on power plants, and "zero out" programs to clean up the Great Lakes and the Chesapeake Bay. EPA climate change research would be eliminated. Grants for state and local drinking and wastewater projects would be preserved.
- Health and Human Services, facing a $12.6 billion cut, or 16.2 per cent. The plan would cut $5.8 billion from the nearly $32 billion National Institutes of Health, the nation's premier medical research agency, bringing its total to $25.9 billion.
- State Department and U.S. Agency for International Development. Down 31 per cent, or $17 billion. Foreign aid would be reduced, as would money to the UN and to multilateral development banks including the World Bank. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

COURT

Another judge blocks Muslim ban

Rejecting arguments from the government that President Donald Trump's revised travel ban was substantially different from the first one, judges in Hawaii and Maryland blocked the executive order from taking effect as scheduled on Thursday, using the president's own words as evidence that the order discriminates against Muslims.

The rulings in Hawaii late Wednesday and in Maryland early Thursday were victories for civil liberties groups and advocates for immigrants and refugees, who argued that a temporary ban on travel from six predominantly Muslim countries violated the First Amendment. The Trump administration argued that the ban was intended to protect the U.S. from terrorism.

In Greenbelt, Maryland, U.S. District Judge Theodore Chuang called Trump's own statements about barring Muslims from entering the U.S. "highly relevant."

"Despite these changes, the history of public statements continues to provide a convincing case that the purpose of the Second Executive Order remains the realization of the long-envisioned Muslim ban," Chuang said. The second executive order removed a preference for religious minorities from the affected countries, among other changes that the Justice Department argued would address the legal concerns surrounding the first ban.

In Honolulu, U.S. District Judge Derrick Watson criticized what he called the "illogic" of the government's arguments and cited "significant and unrebutted evidence of religious animus" behind the travel ban. He also noted that while courts should not examine the "secret motives" of decision-makers, "the remarkable facts at issue here require no such impermissible inquiry." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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VFS VANCOUVER FILM SCHOOL

2017 Info Session

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Residents, activists, and friends and family members of victims of gun violence march down Michigan Avenue carrying nearly 800 wooden crosses bearing the names of people murdered in the city in 2016 on Dec. 31, 2016 in Chicago, Ill. In a way totally foreign to a Canadian, the normalcy of life in the United States exists atop the knowledge that guns are everywhere, Rosemary Westwood writes. GETTY IMAGES

Acclimatizing to violence

Living in New Orleans, what's shocking isn't the sound of gunfire, but how quickly it becomes quotidian

ROSEMARY WESTWOOD
From the U.S.

A young man stood outside a pharmacy on a busy New Orleans street this week, selling CDs of his music for $5 a disc.

This isn't unusual here; I've seen young men (not so much women) sell music and paintings outside pharmacies and gas stations. My sister, visiting from Vancouver, bought the CD, and listening to it while driving around, we heard him rap about people he's lost.

He seemed young, maybe not even out of his teens, and the people he wished he could "talk for a minute" with were only 20 or 22. It's not explicit what they were lost to, exactly, but this is New Orleans, and it's a safe bet guns were involved.

The city got off to a violent start in 2017. In just the first month of the year, 75 people were hurt or killed by gunshots, a 50-per-cent jump over 2016, which was an usually violent year in its own right. Last year, 604 guns were reported stolen — up 19 per cent from 2015 — in a trend that police say fuels street violence and arms gangs.

In a way totally foreign to a Canadian, the normalcy of life here exists atop the knowledge that guns are everywhere. Road rage encounters not infrequently turn to shootings. Sitting in my living room, I've heard shots a handful of times. It only took a few months before that fact stopped surprising me, and I play the same game as my neighbours: Gunshot or fireworks?

The news headlines become routine. A man was shot in an apartment complex in the city's east end on Sunday. Two men and a woman were killed (and another woman injured by a shot to the head) in the Metairie suburb on Wednesday. Last week, a 30-year-old mother and her six-year-old and 10-year-old sons were all shot dead.

In a recent piece for NPR, a reporter noted how mundane all this violence has become, how people absorb it into their daily lives as fact, endure it like the weather.

But it's not exactly that simple. Gun violence is both mundane and an omnipresent threat. It's a psychological underpinning to otherwise innocuous decisions you might make, such as what street to walk down, or whether to flip the bird to another driver. And that's coming from a white ex-pat woman, in a city where 70 per cent of those killed by guns are black men, according to a recent report in the Gambit newspaper. The same report found that my neighbourhood, a predominately black one, is part of a district disproportionately violent compared to other whiter, more affluent parts of town — just one of the myriad ways black New Orleanians face a drastically different life than their white counterparts.

With U.S. President Donald Trump's crusade against "inner cities," the long-debunked "law and order" approach is reigning again in Washington, even though we know that violence is learned, that offenders have often been victims and ending the cycle requires dramatic improvements to health, education, employment and safety. But perhaps the most frustrating fact is just how easy it is to drop into a city so emblematic of this country's racial inequality and extraordinary gun violence, and feel the current of acceptance pull you in, even just a little.

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Canada Goose to keep using real fur

BUSINESS

Company will stay the course as it debuts on stock exchange

Liz Rizzi, left, allows animal rights activist Michael Dolling to remove the fur collar on her Canada Goose jacket outside the New York Stock Exchange on Thursday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The head of Canada Goose vowed Thursday to keep using animal fur in its parkas rather than bow to activist pressure as shares of the luxury brand soared nearly 27 per cent in its initial public offering in Toronto.

"We're not looking to change our plans (to use fur) in response to a loud but vocal minority," said president and CEO Dani Reiss as the company made its debut on the Toronto and New York stock markets.

Reiss, whose grandfather founded the company 60 years ago, said Canada Goose has long used duck down feathers and coyote fur in its jackets and is comfortable with the practice because it is a "functional first brand."

"Additionally to that, we make a lot of jackets," he said. "A lot of jackets we make don't have fur on them. We know that wearing different products is a personal choice and we offer products for everybody."

For years, the company has been targeted by People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals.

The animal-rights group has protested outside Canada Goose's offices, run campaigns against the outerwear maker and recently said it plans on buying around $4,000 worth of shares so it can speak out at annual meetings.

Toronto-based Canada Goose started out in a small warehouse under the name Metro Sportswear Ltd. by Reiss's grandfather, Sam Tick.

Canada Goose said it had revenue of $290.8 million and net income of $26.5 million in fiscal 2016, according to securities filings. THE CANADIAN PRESS

SOCIAL MEDIA

McDonald's looks into Trump tweet

McDonald's says it has been notified by Twitter that its account was "compromised" after it appeared to send a message calling Donald Trump "a disgusting excuse of a President."

The tweet to Trump from the official account for McDonald's Corp., a message that has since been deleted but was captured in a screenshot, said it would love to have President Obama back. "Also you have tiny hands," the tweet told Trump.

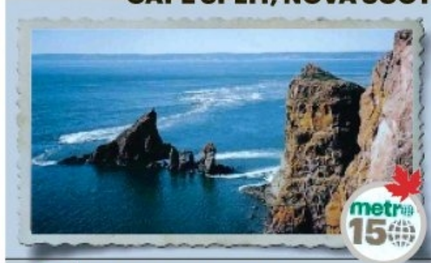
The tweet was also temporarily pinned to the top of the McDonald's account so that it would be the top message people see if they visited the company's Twitter profile.

A McDonald's representative said the company deleted the tweet, has secured the account and is investigating the matter. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

150 WAYS of looking at Canada

POSTCARD NO. 45

CAPE SPLIT, NOVA SCOTIA



AFTER A 6 KM WILDERNESS HIKE TO CAPE SPLIT, THIS VANTAGE POINT WITH THE HIGHEST TIDES IN THE WORLD, OFFERS SPECTACULAR VIEWS OF THE BAY OF FUNDY TO THE LEFT, MINAS BASIN TO THE RIGHT AND THE PARRSBORO SHORELINE DIRECTLY IN FRONT.
ROBERT AND DARLENE

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Each day until July 1, Metro will feature one reader's postcard in our editions across the country, on Metronews.ca and our 150postcards Instagram page. Get involved by sending us a photo of your favourite place in Canada along with 25 to 50 words about why that place is special to you. Email us at **scene@metronews.ca** or post to Instagram or Twitter with the hashtag **#150postcards.**

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metro SCIENCE

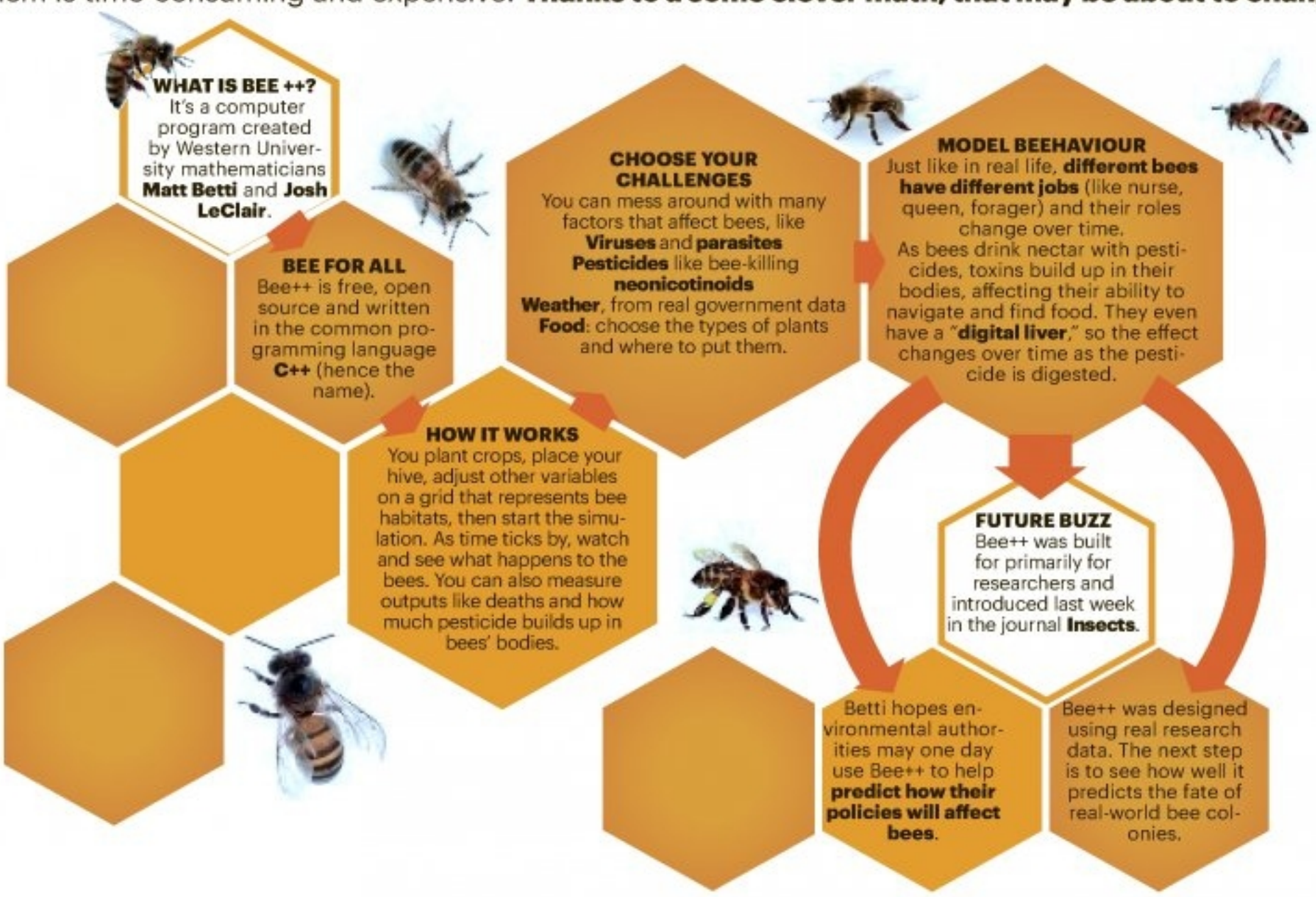
Your essential science news

Five a day keeps the blues away : The more vegetables you eat, the less stressed you are, an Australian study says

DECODED by Genna Buck and Andrés Plana

ON A WING AND A GAME PLAYER

Honeybees are in trouble. For years, they've been plagued with Colony Collapse Disorder, a strange syndrome killing masses of bees. Why? It's a complicated combo of pesticides, parasites and other factors. For the future of our food supply and economy, we must protect pollinators. But studying them is time-consuming and expensive. **Thanks to a some clever math, that may be about to change.**


WHAT IS BEE ++?
It's a computer program created by Western University mathematicians **Matt Betti** and **Josh LeClair**.
BEE FOR ALL
Bee++ is free, open source and written in the common programming language **C++** (hence the name).
HOW IT WORKS
You plant crops, place your hive, adjust other variables on a grid that represents bee habitats, then start the simulation. As time ticks by, watch and see what happens to the bees. You can also measure outputs like deaths and how much pesticide builds up in bees' bodies.
CHOOSE YOUR CHALLENGES
You can mess around with many factors that affect bees, like **Viruses** and **parasites**
Pesticides like bee-killing **neonicotinoids**
Weather, from real government data
Food: choose the types of plants and where to put them.
MODEL BEEHAVIOUR
Just like in real life, **different bees have different jobs** (like nurse, queen, forager) and their roles change over time.
As bees drink nectar with pesticides, toxins build up in their bodies, affecting their ability to navigate and find food. They even have a "**digital liver**," so the effect changes over time as the pesticide is digested.
FUTURE BUZZ
Bee++ was built for primarily for researchers and introduced last week in the journal **Insects**.
Betti hopes environmental authorities may one day use Bee++ to help **predict how their policies will affect bees**.
Bee++ was designed using real research data. The next step is to see how well it predicts the fate of real-world bee colonies.

FINDINGS
Your week in science

STRETCHING SCREENS
Using simple silicon and gel, UBC scientists made a touchscreen that can sense pressure, motion or a hovering finger, even when it's folded or bent. One day, you might be able to just fold out your phone into a tablet.

POWER UP
Speaking of smartphones, Disney has built a prototype "charging room" with a copper pole and aluminum walls that can charge 10 batteries at once — wirelessly. It's safe for people to enter, the company says, and it sounds like something that could come in handy in the future Magic Kingdom.

SOUND SMART

DEFINITION
In evolution, a **clade** is a group of living things including a common ancestor and all its direct descendents. It's one branch on the tree of life.

USE IT IN A SENTENCE
My great-grandmother, my grandma, my mom and me are one big happy **clade**.

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Tale's real beauty is humanity

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST

Director Bill Condon takes cue from 1946 version of film

Richard Crouse
For Metro Canada

Poet Paul Éluard said that to understand Jean Cocteau's 1946 version of La Belle et la Bête — Beauty and the Beast — you must love your dog more than your car. His comment is baffling only if you haven't seen the movie.

Once Cocteau's film is seen, it's apparent that what makes his version rewarding is that it values the organic over the mechanical — even the special effects are handmade. It refuses to allow the technical aspects of the film to interfere with the humanity of the story

This weekend Disney will have their collective fingers crossed that audiences will favour their poodles over their RVs as they release the big-budget, live-action version of Beauty and the Beast starring Emma Watson.

Director Bill Condon says the animated 1991 Disney classic was an inspiration for the new film, but adds he also drew from everything from Twilight and Frankenstein to a 1932 musical comedy called Love Me Tonight when creating the look for the new movie.

He also mentions La Belle et la Bête. "A film I really love." His take on the Beast looked back to the movie, cribbing the character's combination of ferocity and romance from Cocteau.

Bill Condon took inspiration from a variety of films, including Jean Cocteau's La Belle et la Bête. CONTRIBUTED

Before taking in the new version this weekend, let's have a look back at the little-seen 70-year old Cocteau classic.

Loosely based on the timeless Jeanne-Marie Leprince de Beaumont fairy tale, the action in La Belle et la Bête begins when a poverty-stricken merchant pilfers a rose from a grand estate owned by a strange creature. The Beast strikes a deal with the man.

He'll spare the life of the merchant in return for the hand of one of the man's daughters. Reluctantly the merchant offers Belle, a beautiful girl who had been courted by the oafish Avenant.

At first she is repulsed by the Beast, who looks like the love child of the Wolf Man and Mrs. Chewbacca, but over time his tender ways and nightly offers of marriage warm her heart and she learns to love him for his inner beauty.

Cocteau's version strays from the original story and Condon's adaptation with the addition of a subplot involving Avenant's scheme to kill the Beast and make off with his treasures and an unexpected magical personality switcheroo.

It's meant to be a happy ending, but not everyone loved the new coda. When Marlene Dietrich saw an early cut of the film at a private screening, she squeezed Cocteau's hand and said, "Where is my beautiful Beast?"

Other audiences embraced Cocteau's vision. In his diary the poet wrote of a test screening held for the technicians in the Joinville Studio were the film had been made. "The welcome the picture received from that audience of workers was unforgettable," he wrote.

Others criticized La Belle et la Bête for its straightforwardness, complaining that the characters are simply drawn, the story one dimensional. Taking that view, however, misses Cocteau's point.

At the beginning of the film he asks for "childlike simplicity," inviting the viewer to connect with their inner child, eschew cynicism and embrace naiveté for the film's 96-minute running time.

In 1946 the request was meant as a salve for a post-occupation France that was still dealing with the aftermath of a terrible war.

Today, in an increasingly contemptuous world, the message still seems timely and welcome.

MOVIE RATINGS by Richard Crouse

Beauty and the Beast	★★★
T2 Trainspotting	★★★★
Goon: Last of the Enforcers	★★★
The Sense of an Ending	★★★★
Weirdos	★★★★

HOW RATING WORKS
★★★★ SEE IT
★★★ WORTHWHILE
★★ UP TO YOU
★ SKIP IT

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Maritimes' prodigal son stays home

INTERVIEW

Allan Hawco's love for native turf breeding much success

Steve Gow
For Metro Canada

Allan Hawco in Weirdos, the film about a teenager living in a small town in Nova Scotia in 1976 who decides to run away to live with his mother. CONTRIBUTED

It's the day after the Canadian Screen Awards and Allan Hawco missed out on the whole affair.

Grounded in Newfoundland after a treacherous windstorm left tens of thousands without electricity, the actor resigned to watch his latest film Weirdos pick up two CSAs from afar. But he actually didn't mind that much.

"I don't like leaving the province," laughed the 39-year-old thespian a day later. "I was bummed that I wasn't there with all my friends last night but there was a part of me that didn't mind staying a little bit later in St. John's."

Raised on The Rock, Hawco is truly one of the Maritimes' prodigal sons. Not only does he still make Newfoundland his home, but it's where the actor-producer decided to film his former six-season television hit drama Republic of Doyle and his new historical Netflix fur-trade series Frontier.

"I just kind of grew up with this severe love for Newfoundland — it's weird," explained Hawco. "I wanted more than anything in my life to produce and create television and film there and work and live there. I've wanted that far more than I might have, in my younger years, to be a Hollywood celebrity."

As such, Hawco is proving an intriguing personality in Canadian entertainment. By shunning the alluring spotlight of Tinseltown to achieve success north of the border, he's arguably inspiring other ambitious actors averse to the seductive pull of American showbiz.

In Hawco's case, it's also landed him a small-but-satisfying paternal part in Weirdos (in theatres today) where he mingled with fellow-minded flag-wavers like iconic director Bruce McDonald (Highway 61, Trigger) and celebrated scribe Daniel MacIvor.

"He's been a mentor to me over the years," admitted Hawco of the Cape Breton playwright and his Canadian Screen Award-winning script about two teens coming-of-age as they hitchhike across 1970's Nova Scotia.

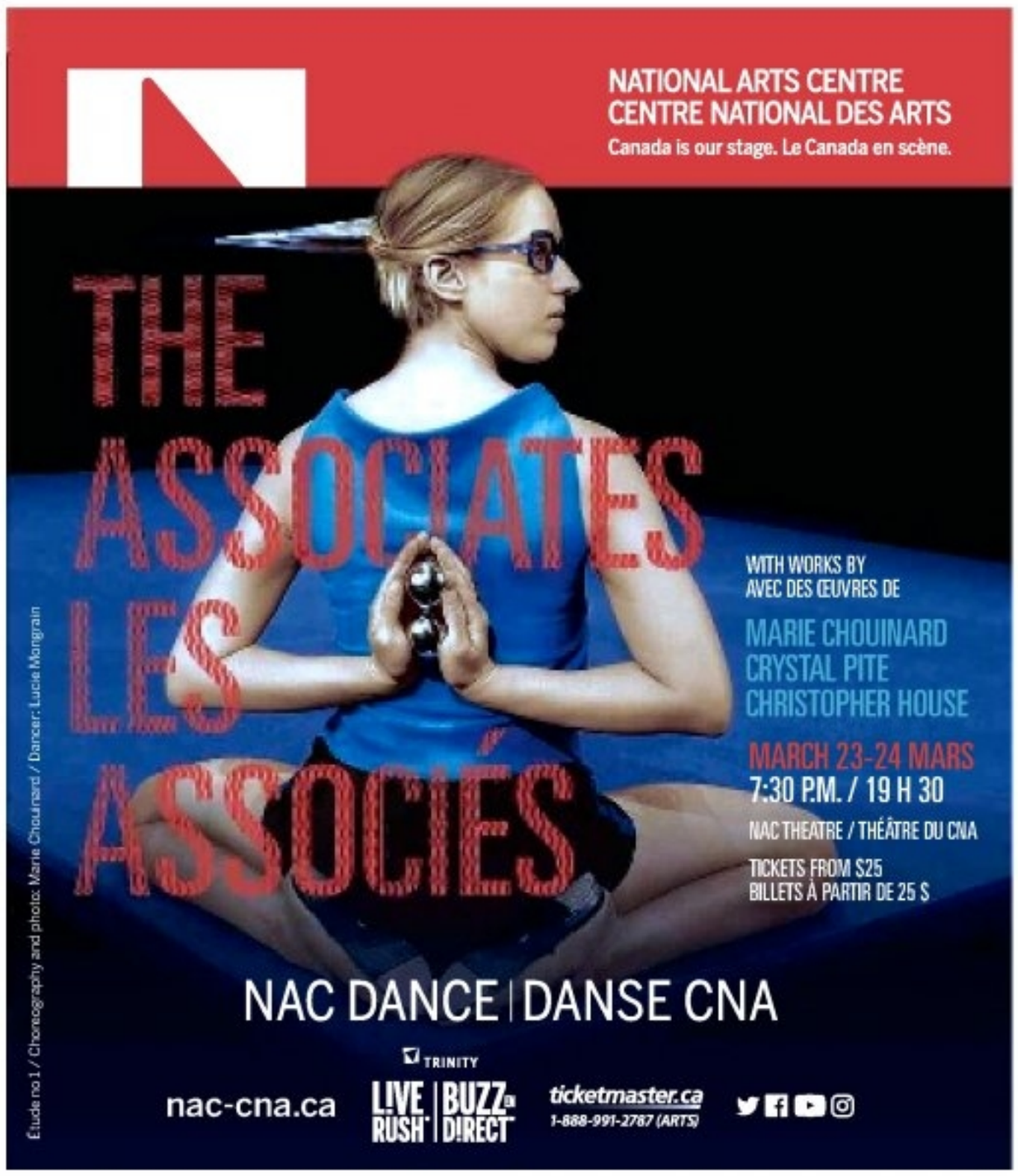
"But another reason I wanted to do the movie is because of Bruce. There's people like them who have committed their lives to telling our stories and believe in it. There's a beautiful thing when you do that and people care — that's something that's hard to achieve and when it does work, it's very special."

BEHIND THE SCENES

Weirdos wins two
"(Daniel) was unprepared for the thought that he might win," said Allan Hawco of MacIvor's Canadian Screen Award for original screenplay. Weirdos also won the supporting actress for Molly Parker. "There's so many great films out there and the thought our little movie has made an impact — I'm pretty proud of that."

MacIvor's unique skill
"He has such insight to what we are as people," said Hawco of Daniel MacIvor's award-winning script. "He's able to shine a certain light on it that I think is difficult at times (but) his whole body of work has got that with a light touch of humor."

Hollywood vs home
"If I could be married to both and disappear for a few months to do amazing work, that would be the ultimate dream," said Hawco of choosing a career in Canada over Hollywood. "I just don't like leaving the province."



INTERVIEW

20 years since Trainspotting

Jonny Lee Miller, Ewan McGregor and Ewen Bremner are struggling with the transition into adulthood in T2. CONTRIBUTED

As with any long-delayed family reunion, nobody was expecting the sequel to Trainspotting to be a piece of cake, or even a gob of heroin.

Least of all director Danny Boyle and star Ewan McGregor, whose friendship came apart over the casting for Boyle's 2000 terror-in-paradise film The Beach, in which Leonardo DiCaprio got the lead gig McGregor felt Boyle had promised him.

McGregor and Boyle didn't speak for most of the two decades since Trainspotting, a bleak satire about Edinburgh heroin addicts that became Britain's smack-infused answer to the 1990s indie-film revolution spearheaded by the likes of America's Quentin Tarantino and Steven Soderbergh. But now the sequel T2 Trainspotting is almost upon us.

"Ewan and I fell out over The Beach, and it was my fault, and we reconciled about three or four years ago," Boyle, 60, says from Australia, one stop on a worldwide promotional tour.

But getting McGregor, 45, to reprise his Mark Renton character — now older but not wiser, and in even bigger trouble than before — was just one of many hurdles to overcome on the sequel path. Boyle also had to round up other key members of the Trainspotting cast: flash Sick Boy (Jonny Lee Miller), psycho Begbie (Robert Carlyle) and sad Spud (Ewen Bremner). He also found room in the film for a cameo by Renton's ex-girlfriend Diane (Kelly Macdonald), while greatly expanding the female quotient with wily new character Veronika (Anjela Nedyalkova).

Then there was the small matter of the script, which returning screenwriter John Hodge adapted from two novels by Scottish author Irvine Welsh, the original Trainspotting and its follow-up Porno.

Boyle finally got a script that he and the actors liked, and shooting commenced. But when he was editing the film in post-production, he noticed something he hadn't before: all these guys are now struggling to Choose Life not just for themselves, but also for the children they've fathered, and not in ideal circumstances.

But all of the actors playing them have aged delightfully. T2 may have been a difficult family reunion to pull off, but it's turned out to be a happy one.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Mouse House undergoes some real-life renovation

Audra McDonald, who stars as Madame Garderobe in Beauty and the Beast, insists live-action remakes shouldn't upset the animation traditionalists. CONTRIBUTED

INTERVIEW

Beauty and the Beast sparks Disney's new era of remakes

Steve Gow
For Metro Canada

Disney is banking on the Beauty and the Beast. After all, not only is it the most expensive musical ever made, but it will also ring in a new era for the Mouse House — one in which the studio will focus on morphing live-action remakes from its animated classics.

Of course, they began last year with The Jungle Book and Cinderella but this weekend's Beauty and the Beast officially initiates a new age of live-action adaptations that just may be leaving diehard Disney animation fans moping.

"Traditionalists might think that it means the thing they love so much is being erased but it's not and it's not being shunned in anyway," explained actress Audra McDonald, who portrays Madame Garderobe in this weekend's remake. "That film is absolutely perfect and no one denies that; Disney isn't trying to get rid of that — they're just exploring."

In fact, McDonald goes one step further, insisting that Disney's investment in reimagining old classics will only benefit fervent film-lovers. While immortal gems certainly have charm, there is a delightful difference in seeing iconic cartoons transformed.

"It just allows for subtler shading that can only be achieved with actual human beings," said the six-time Tony Award winner.

Whether it's the endearing tale of a beauty that falls in love with a hideous beast or any other animated gem-turned-live action hit, the form of any fairy tale will only be as good as its story.

"This story touches the core in our humanity of wanting to be seen for who we are," said McDonald. "No matter what generation we are in, what period of time we're living in, that's always going to be a deeply human thing and that's why I think it continues to resonate."

Three more going live

The Lion King (tbd)

This cherished lion-cub drama will be getting a real-life renovation at the hands of Jungle Book-director Jon Favreau, who has cast Donald Glover (TV's Atlanta) to play Simba while James Earl Jones will return to portray Mufasa.

Dumbo (May 2018)

It's been over 75 years since a big-eared elephant broke hearts in this Disney classic. Now renowned filmmaker Tim Burton will rejuvenate the peppy pachyderm. With a script being written by Ehren Kruger (The Ring), this Dumbo could be a little scary.

Mulan (November 2018)

The 1998 favourite is in the works with director Niki Caro in charge. A tale about one of China's greatest heroines, the studio has put out a casting call for an Asian lead after false rumours that Jennifer Lawrence was cast created an uproar with fans.

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metro TRAVEL

Your essential daily news

The Who to become the first rock band to take up residency at Caesars Palace this summer

The *urban Cuba* you don't know

It's a shame, really: 99 per cent of Canadians visiting Cuba stay in resorts. That's not an exaggeration; it's a quote from the director of Cuba's tourism board. We go for the sun and sand, complain about the resort food, and — while we may do a day trip — go home without really appreciating the island nation. Venture off resort, and you'll encounter a country on the cusp of change, rich in history and home to amazing and resilient people. Here are a few things you'll see.

TEXT AND PHOTOS BY DEAN LISK/METRO CANADA

Eternal Havana

While the sharp details of the cornices, balustrades and mouldings of Havana's patchwork-painted buildings are eroding like water poured over a sugar cube, they are not dead or abandoned spaces. The sounds of daily life still filter through the half-open shutters or the cracked window glass.

A move is underway in Old Havana, founded in 1519, to restore many of these once- and still-elegant buildings using tourism revenue. Others are being restored privately, including a five-storey building across from Parque Central. The gutted, sand-blasted and re-painted interior will soon open as the Gran Hotel Manzana Kempinski La Habana.

Rich in history, the Hotel Nacional de Cuba stands on a small hill above the wave-etched Malecón sea wall in the Vedado neighbourhood. Built in 1930 with the understanding it would only ever fly the Cuban flag, it is a silent character in national events that have played out since its construction.

Some of the rooms in the eight-floor hotel are named after its famous guests, like Errol Flynn, Fred Astaire, Rita Hayworth and Nat King Cole. A mafia suite pays homage to a summit U.S. gangsters held in the hotel in 1946 organized by Lucky Luciano and Meyer Lansky.

While many hotels have in-house restaurants, try exploring Havana's ripening culinary scene instead. San Cristóbal — where Barack Obama ate when he visited in 2016 — is one the growing number of paladares (privately-owned restaurants, as opposed to state-operated ones) infusing the capital's food scene with innovative takes on traditional dishes. The Cuban-Creole menu includes lobster, steak, fresh local fish and roasted pork.

Contemporary Culture

Yes, Havana has — for lack of a better term — hipsters. Lined up two deep along the wall encircling the Fabrica de Arte Cubano, a former factory transformed into an exhibition space, they wait to be allowed in to enjoy the music and performances in the Vedado region of the city.

Held in their hands or tucked in the pockets of their skinny jeans and slacks is a card given at the door on which bartenders will record what drinks are ordered.

The old factory is a canvas on which Cubans are reflecting their own experiences in a post-Fidel Cuba. Once you are done with the art, music and dancing, you must show your card at the door and pay for your drinks. Lose the card and there is a penalty fee.

If your trip to Fabrica has you convinced you need a lesson in loosening your hips, Currys Dance School can help you with your backbone slide. The school is located across the street from Havana's only mosque and was recently renovated to allow more space for lessons, which cost 15 CUC an hour. A major investor in the school is Vancouverite Alessandra Quaglia. Coming to Havana for a number of years for an annual Salsa Festival, she ended up staying for a few extra months to improve her steps, and, after her visit, made the decision to invest in the space.

To get a sense of how important dance and music is in Havana — and the rest of Cuba — no trip is complete without a visit to Tropicana. It's a bit of a cliché, but this outdoor show has been cha cha cha-ing along for more than 80 years with its head-dressed showgirls, baritone singers and elaborate stage numbers.

Historical Heroes and icons

With his death in November, you'd expect to see images of el comandante, Fidel Castro. His bearded portrait is there, but spying it is rare. You're more likely to see bereted Che Guevara — whose image appears prominently on the side of the Ministry of Interior Building – staring back at you from photographs, painting and street art. More likely to turn your head from Cuban adoration is a literary hero, one from Cuba's liberators from Spain rather than from Capitalism, José Martí. A statue of the poet, journalist and philosopher looms over the Plaza de la Revolución, his bust sits in front of schools, and — standing with a child cradled in one arm and the other raised in defiance and pointing behind him, finger outstretched — staring from the plaza in front the U.S. embassy.

Still, it's an American whose legend haunts the city and nearby countryside. Like the patron saint of tourism, Ernest Hemingway's memory looms as large as his drinking habits.

Shoulder-to-shoulder tourists pack into La Bodeguita del Medio at 10 a.m. for mojitos (the rum, sugar and mint-filed drink inspiring revelers to carve their names into the restaurant's wooden shuttered front facade), wait in line at El Floridita to sip on an afternoon or evening daiquiri, or pay their respect by leaning through the windows into the writer's home, Finca Vigia, a few kilometers outside Havana. There you can see the mounted heads of rare big game animals, bookshelves lined with well-read tomes and Hemingway's war correspondent uniform stiffly hanging in the closet off his bedroom.

The author of this piece wes hosted by Cuba Tourism, which didn't review or approve the stories.

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metro SPORTS

Thursday's deadline for the U.S. women to tell USA Hockey if they'll play in the worlds passed with the players resolute in their intention to boycott

NHL

TD Place to host Classic, reports say

The Ottawa Senators will host the Montreal Canadiens in an outdoor game to mark the NHL's 100th anniversary, according to several online reports.

The NHL has announced a press conference in Ottawa for Friday that will be attended by league commissioner Gary Bettman, the owners of the Senators and Canadiens, Ottawa mayor Jim Watson and others. Reports say the event will confirm that a Heritage Classic game will be held Dec. 17 at TD Place, home of the Ottawa Redblacks.

The proposed game would take place almost 100 years after the first NHL game was played on Dec. 19, 1917 between Ottawa and Montreal.

It would be the third Heritage Classic appearance for the Canadiens, and the second for the Senators. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Habs' Tomas Plekanec, left, and Sens' Kyle Turris THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Upshaw and Potts star in Middle Tennessee victory

Reggie Upshaw scored 19 points, Giddy Potts added 15 and Middle Tennessee took down another Big Ten team in the NCAA Tournament, beating Minnesota 81-72 on Thursday. Twelfth-seeded Middle Tennessee proved it was no one-year wonder after upsetting Michigan State as a No. 15 seed last March.

The Blue Raiders (31-4) instead played like seasoned NCAA veterans with the way they held off the Gophers' comeback attempt from a 17-point deficit.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Grillo leads by three at Arnold Palmer Invitational

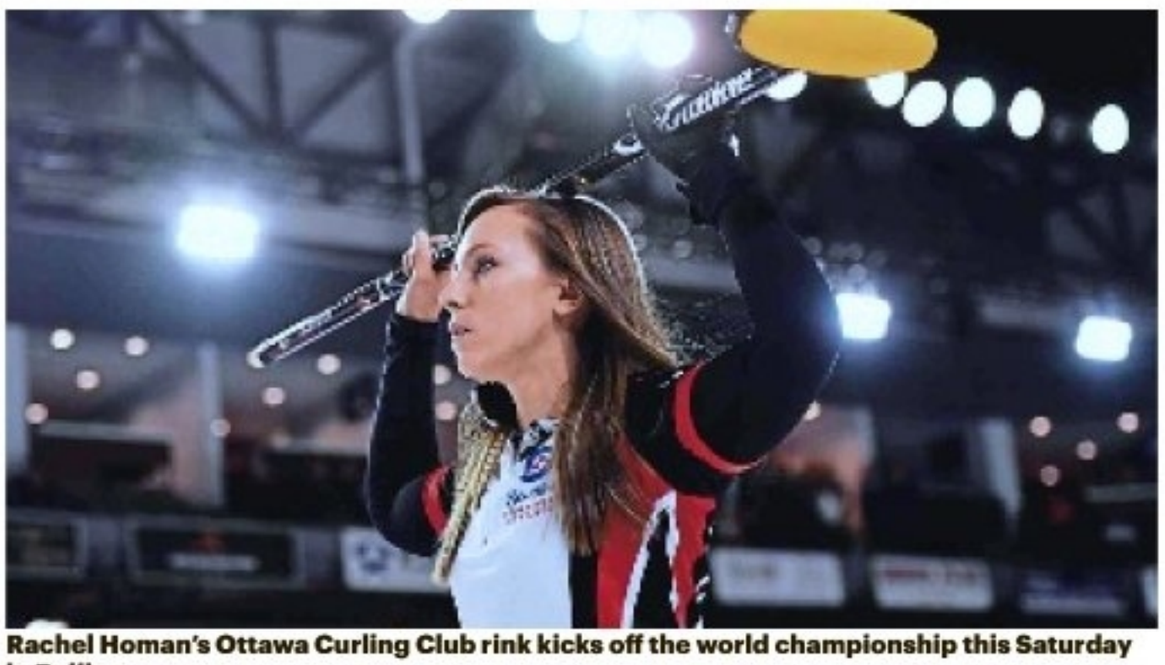
Emiliano Grillo of Argentina recovered from a rough start in cold weather by running off seven birdies for a 5-under 67, giving him an early three-shot lead in the first Arnold Palmer Invitational without the beloved tournament host.

Grillo three-putted from 25 feet on No. 3 and took a bogey from 120 yards out in the fairway on the par-5 fourth. It never got any worse. The Argentine, often weighed down by his putting, answered with consecutive birdies. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

World gold next step for Canada, Homan

CURLING

Local rink keen to better their silver, bronze in Beijing



Rachel Homan's Ottawa Curling Club rink kicks off the world championship this Saturday in Beijing. SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

The next move for Rachel Homan at the women's world curling championship is the top of the podium after silver and bronze medals in previous appearances.

Homan, third Emma Miskew, second Joanne Courtney and lead Lisa Weagle out of the Ottawa Curling Club open the 2017 world championship Saturday against host China in Beijing.

They won the national championship Feb. 26 beating Michelle Englot in an extra end in St. Catharines, Ont. Homan, Miskew, Weagle and second Alison Kreviazuk were third in their world championship debut in 2013 in Riga, Latvia, and runner-up the following year in Saint John, N.B. Courtney, who will play in her first world championship, was recruited in 2014 after Kreviazuk moved to Sweden.

"The first time you go, everything is so new and foreign," Homan said. "We did our best and came up a little bit short. The second time was in Canada and we did a little bit better. We're fairly young for being able to go our third worlds. We have a bit of experience on our side."

> **We're fairly young for being able to go our third worlds. We have a bit of experience on our side.**
> Rachel Homan

Winnipeg's Jennifer Jones dominated women's curling at the 2014 Winter Olympics, going undefeated to claim gold. But it's been nine years since Canada won a women's world championship.

Jones took the crown in Vernon, B.C., in 2008, which was a year after Homan graduated from high school. The average age of Homan's current team is 28.5. Swiss women have dominated recently winning four of the last five world titles. Binia Feltscher was victorious last year in Swift Current, Sask.

Homan topped the preliminary round in 2014 with a 10-1 record in Saint John, but lost the final to Feltscher.

The 12-hour time difference from Ottawa means Canada plays their first game at 1 a.m. ET on Saturday. Homan and her teammates began adjusting their sleep patterns four days before their departure.

"Yep, definitely going to be in a bubble and far away in a different culture," Homan acknowledged. "I think there's going to be lots of people watching us and cheering us on from all over Canada and we know that.

They'll play in the 17,000-seat Capital Gymnasium, which was the venue for the 2014 men's world championship. Canada's Kevin Koe finished out of the medals there, but won the men's title in 2016. Nolan Thiessen, who was Koe's lead in 2014 and now a Curling Canada consultant, has met with Homan's team to give advice on handling smog and unfamiliar food.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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2	1	8	4	6	3	7	5	9
7	5	9	1	8	2	3	4	6
6	3	4	7	5	9	1	8	2
4	7	5	6	3	8	9	2	1
8	2	6	9	7	1	4	3	5
1	9	3	5	2	4	8	6	7
5	4	1	8	9	6	2	7	3
9	6	2	3	4	7	5	1	8
3	8	7	2	1	5	6	9	4

ACROSS

1. The ____ Never Stops
4. When you have a fling with your wife's friend
5. When she gets pregnant
6. When your wife finds out

DOWN

2. When your wife leaves you
3. And wants half your pub.
4. Weeknights at 7:30 on CBC

·CORONATION ST.·

✷ IT'S ALL IN THE STARS Your daily horoscope by Francis Drake

Aries March 21 - April 20
Today will have some challenges, because whatever you do, you will encounter obstacles. You might feel like you're behind the 8-ball. Good luck.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
Your efforts with a group, or perhaps a friend, will be stymied because of some kind of limitation. It could be financial. There's not enough money in the coffers.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
You are high-viz right now. Nevertheless, a partner or close friend might object to what you want to do. This will create problems for you. Easy does it.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
Do not get involved in discussions about religion, politics or racial issues today, because an authority figure will overrule you or shut you down. Just keep a low profile.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
Your plans to investigate how to share or divide something likely will be met with resistance. Not everyone is ready to endorse your ideas. Perhaps you should wait another day?

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
No matter what you try to do to break out of your rut, some kind of barrier will hold you back today. This is a poor day to ask for permission or an endorsement. Don't ask for anything.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
A boss or authority figure at work might squelch your plans. This is why you seem to be world-weary at work today. Just keep on trucking, one day at a time.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Children might add increased responsibility today. Plus, plans to socialize and have fun will be met with obstacles. Something will hold you back.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
This is not a good day to ask for permission or anything from a parent or an older family member. His or her answer will be "Talk to the hand."

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
It's easy to fall into worry mode today. Remember: "Worry is like a rocking chair. It gives you something to do, but gets you nowhere."

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Your finances look a bit bleak today. (Why is there always so much month left at the end of the money?) And so it goes.

Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
You cannot ignore your duties and responsibilities today. It's just a fact. Don't try to break free. Just suck it up and do what is expected.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

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8			7		6			1
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MAKE IT TONIGHT

Decadent Chinese 5-Spice Chocolate Chip Skillet Cookie

PHOTO: MAYA VISNYEI

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

You need a chocolate-y splurge that will herald the weekend and this skillet cookie rises to the challenge.

Ready in minutes
Prep time: minutes
Cook time: minutes
Serves 4 to 6

Ingredients
- 1/2 cup melted coconut oil (you can also use butter)
- 1 1/2 cups spelt flour
- 1/2 tsp baking powder
- 1/4 tsp baking soda
- 1/2 tsp Chinese 5 spice
- 1/8 tsp salt
- 1 egg
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1/4 cup brown sugar
- 2 tsp vanilla extract
- 1/2 cup chocolate chips

Directions

1. Preheat oven to 350. In an 8-inch oven proof skillet, add coconut oil and place it in the oven to melt. Remove skillet and pour out the melted oil into a glass measuring cup, leaving behind enough to grease your pan; set aside to cool.

2. In a medium bowl, whisk the flour, baking powder, baking soda, Chinese 5-Spice and salt. In a separate bowl, whisk the egg and then add the sugars and extract. Stir until blended. Add the coconut oil and mix until blended. Pour the sugar mixture into the flour and mix until combined.

3. Scrape batter into prepared skillet making sure it is evenly distributed. Bake cookie for 18 to 20 minutes or until outer edges are browned and puffed. Let cool in the skillet. Serve in skillet or turn out; cut into wedges.

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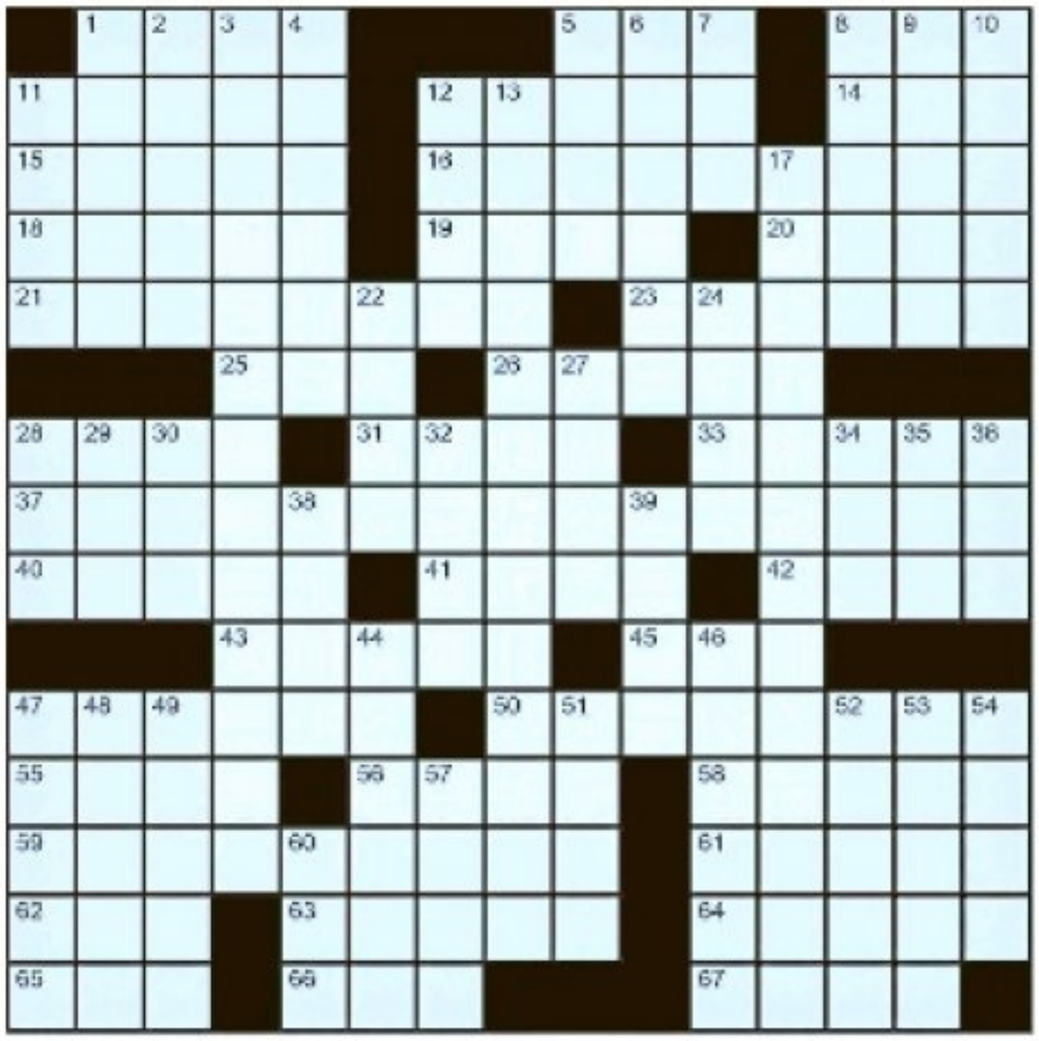
CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



ACROSS
1. Vault
5. Initials-sharers of Tina Fey's frequent co-star
8. 'Free' suffix
11. Irish actor Mr. Farrell
12. Attempt
14. Chemical suffix
15. Latin for 'in the meantime' [abbr.]: 2 wds.
16. Effects everlastingness
18. 'Sleep'-meaning prefix
19. Info-finding documents, e.g.
20. Harness
21. Ireland, poetically
23. Isolate, as a stranded castaway
25. 'Earth'-meaning prefix
26. Quizzes
28. 'Ranch' suffix
31. A Doll's House wife
33. Important invention
37. 1911 work by Irish dramatist George Bernard Shaw: 3 wds.
40. Does better than B+: wd. + letter
41. American univ.
42. Not in use
43. Work the eggs in the bowl
45. US politics elephant gr.
47. Run by the other runner again
50. New __ (Period when archaeological site the Ceide Fields in County Mayo in Ireland was created)
55. "May __ you a question?"
56. "..._ _ you want pizza instead?" (Takeout query)
58. Better skilled
59. Potpie morsels: 2 wds.
61. Profits (Conveying air)
62. Shiba _ (Non sporting dog)
63. Some electronics
64. Provide, as with some trait
65. Father
66. Fuss
67. Nutrition amts.

DOWN
1. "Me too.": 3 wds.
2. Out on __ (Not in one's comfort zone)
3. Book of 1939 by Irish author James Joyce: 2 wds.
4. Complete
5. Buy __ of dishes (Expand one's tableware)
6. Analyzes
7. Prefix with 'thesis'
8. Stupefies
9. Barbara of "Gone with the Wind" (1939)
10. Intervening, in law
11. Money
12. Prefix to 'ferous'
13. Annual parade in March in cities such as Montreal and Toronto: 3 wds.
17. Music group, perhaps marching in an event such as #13-Down: 3 wds.
22. Montreal refusals
24. Food package abbr.: 2 wds.
27. 'Grey' tea
28. Alphabet trio
29. Actress, Charlotte __
30. Chg. card percentage
32. Beatles: "Two __ __"
34. Yore
35. 'Ether' suffix
36. Caustic stuff
38. Derisive cries!
39. Palm starch
44. Crustacean that has 14 legs
46. Hurling siege engine of ancient Rome
47. Unyielding
48. Make money, __ living
49. Pretension person
51. Flip a coin
52. Village in southeast Saskatchewan
53. Class/sort, in biology
54. Gaelic
57. Home contractor's gig
60. US intelligence org.

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